

© JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR., Wisconsin
CHAIRMAN

HENRY J. HYDE, Illinois
GEORGE W. GEEKAS, Pennsylvania
HOWARD COBLE, North Carolina
LAMAR S. SMITH, Texas
ELTON GALLEGLY, California
BOB GOODLATTE, Virginia
ED BRYANT, Tennessee
STEVE CHABOT, Ohio
BOB BARR, Georgia
WILLIAM L. JENKINS, Tennessee
CHRIS CANNON, Utah
LINDSEY O. GRAHAM, South Carolina
SPENCER BACHUS, Alabama
JOHN N. HOSTETTLER, Indiana
MARK GREEN, Wisconsin
RICK KELLER, Florida
DARRELL E. ISSA, California
MELISSA A. HART, Pennsylvania
JEFF FLAKE, Arizona
MIKE PENCE, Indiana

JOHN CONYERS, JR., Michigan
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

BARNEY FRANK, Massachusetts
HOWARD L. BERMAN, California
RICK BOUCHER, Virginia
JERROLD NADLER, New York
ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, Virginia
MELVIN L. WATT, North Carolina
ZOE LORFREN, California
SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Texas
MAXINE WATERS, California
MARTIN T. MEEHAN, Massachusetts
WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT, Massachusetts
ROBERT WEXLER, Florida
TAMMY BALDWIN, Wisconsin
ANTHONY D. WEINER, New York
ADAM B. SCHIFF, California

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951

<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

January 10, 2002

Mr. Allan H. "Bud" Selig
Commissioner
Major League Baseball
777 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 3060
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Mr. Selig:

Thank you for your prompt response to my letter of yesterday. I am writing today to follow up on some of the issues raised in our correspondence.

It is no secret that I am concerned there is an appearance of conflict of interest, if not an actual conflict of interest, between yourself, the Brewers franchise and the potential contraction of the Twins franchise. My concerns were only exacerbated by the Brewers accepting a loan by an entity controlled by the owner of the Twins. This is why I called on you yesterday to voluntarily step down while these conflict of interest concerns were resolved.

As an alternative, let me suggest that you immediately announce that Major League Baseball will not contract any teams and not place any team ownership in league control prior to the conclusion of the upcoming season. This would give us all the time and opportunity necessary to consider the range of issues, including potential conflict of interest problems, that have arisen since your testimony before the Judiciary Committee without the time pressure of a pending contraction upon us. Given the logistical difficulties in contracting at this late juncture, the pending lawsuit in Minnesota, and the Players Associations' complaint, it would seem that it is impossible to contract at this point without creating even more problems for baseball, its players, and most importantly, its fans. This would give us the time to review in more detail your contention that the loan complied with Major League Baseball rules, understand which clubs were the initiators of the contraction movement, and consider what benefits, if any, the Brewers franchise would receive from contraction beyond those that would inure to the other franchises.

I would also like to suggest a solution to the confusion which has arisen over the release of Major League Baseball's financial data. As previously stated, I am concerned that baseball's losses may have been overstated as a result of related party transactions, consulting fees and salaries paid to family members, and stadium and acquisition debt. It is also clear that financial

Mr. Allan H. "Bud" Selig

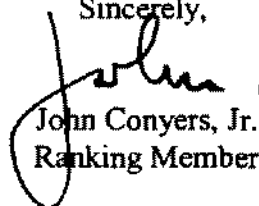
Page 2

January 10, 2002

material exists which has not been turned over to the Committee. For your part, I understand baseball is concerned that releasing the complete set of audited financial statements for each club could compromise the collective bargaining process. I believe we could break this gridlock if you would be willing to specifically waive the confidentiality clause contained in Article XXV(E)(4), Attachment 17, of the collective bargaining agreement, covering economic data given to the Major League Baseball Players Association by your office, in order to permit the Players Association to provide to Committee staff analysis or information necessary to respond to Committee inquiries in our effort to understand the state of Baseball's and its individual teams' finances. This waiver would not include dissemination of the actual raw data provided to the Players Association. Rather, pursuant to our prior discussions we would only ask you for that information if our consultations with the Players Association proved insufficient to give us a full understanding of your financial position. In any event, my staff remains open to working out the details of this waiver with your office at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please contact my staff at 202-225-6504 or 225-6906 so that we may follow up on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John", with a large, stylized loop at the bottom that extends under the printed name.

John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member

ccs: The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary

Donald M. Fehr, President, Major League Baseball
Players Association

Robert A. DuPuy, Executive Vice President and Chief
Legal Officer, Major League Baseball